



Permanent Exhibition Galleries



Ratchaburi National Museum

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For more information, please contact:

Museum Hours: 09.00 am-04.00 pm Wednesday-Sunday
Closed on Monday, Tuesday and National Holidays
Monks, students with uniform and group visitors of governmental offices are welcomed without any charges.

Ratchaburi National Museum Wordet Road, Tambon Na Muang, Amphoe Muang, Ratchaburi 70000
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พิพิธภัณฑ์สถานแห่งชาติ ราชบุรี
สำนักพิพิธภัณฑ์สถานแห่งชาติ กรมศิลปากร
Office of National Museum Fine Arts Department

Rat Chaburi

National Museum

The Ratchaburi National Museum

Is situated on Wordet Road, Tambon Na Muang, Amphoe Muang, Ratchaburi. It was established on the 20th November 1986. The main building of the museum was originally the city hall built in 1922 during the reign of King Rama VI. It was used as the local government office back then and as a city hall of Ratchaburi Province afterwards.

Objective

The mandate of the museum is to serve the needs a local community of Ratchaburi and surrounding provinces as an educational, as well as conservation, center of art and culture. Through professionally managed activities and exhibitions, it is hoped that the museum will promote a profound understanding of cultural roots and prosperities. As a part of modern national museum development, this museum displays the wide range of permanent exhibitions emphasizing local geology, archaeology, history of folk art and culture, major natural sites of Ratchaburi Province.

Exhibits

The official opening of this museum was on 14th October 1991. Its inauguration was presided by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirinthorn. The complex consists of two main buildings.

The Permanent exhibition building

This building was built during the reign of King Rama VI and later served as a city hall. It was registered as National Monument on the 10th May 1977. Most of the exhibitions in this building are concerned mainly with the local way of life and traces of the past of Ratchaburi folk people. The exhibition hall is now organized into five zones displaying particular subjects.

1 : Geography and geology of Ratchaburi This zone displays the geography geology and mineralogical natural resources plus the topography of Ratchaburi and its surrounding provinces such as Petchaburi and Kanchanaburi. There are collections of fossils, stones, gem stones, and the natural resources found in the area of Ratchaburi.

2 : History and archaeology of Ratchaburi

This zone is divided into five sections devoting to the history and archaeology of Ratchaburi chronically.

2.1 Prehistoric Selected collection of artifacts, household utensils, ornaments made from stone, metal, animal bones, bronze kettle drums and skeleton from prehistoric sites are displayed here.



2.2 Dvaravati Culture (during the 6th-the 10th centuries A.D.) In this section, traces of Dvaravati, an important culture of the 7th-11th centuries, found in Ratchaburi area are depicted, especially those archaeological evidence found in Khu Bua Ancient Town and Khoa Ngu Mountain Range.



2.3 Khmer Influence (during the 11th-the 13th centuries A.D.) Among major influences over Ratchaburi history is from Khmer or know as "Lopburi" Archaeological objects dates from the 11th-the 13th centuries A.D. displayed in this section clearly give evidence of the mutual influence of Khmer style. Among those is a stone Radiating Avalokites Bodhisattva found at the area of Chom Prasat of Kosinarai Ancient City. It is one of the five discovered in the Kingdom of Thailand.

2.4 Sukhothai-Thonburi Period (1350-1767 A.D.) The Sukhothai inscription indicates that Ratchaburi was a port city and the key city along the troop route during the war time. This section presents the architectural evidence, sculptures, paintings, Chinese ceramics and pottery in Ayutthaya styles.

2.5 Rattanakosin Period (1781-1832 A.D.) Items displayed in this section reflect the influence of politics, and local development from the Thonburi period and the Rattanakosin period in the reign of King Rama VII.

3 : Ethnic Groups The exhibitions in this area presents the traces of the past and ancestries of Ratchaburi folks people. Objects exemplify the rich culture of the various ethnic groups for example, the Mon, Karen, Thai Yuan, Lao Tee or Lao Wieng, Thai Song Dam etc. The mixture of various people stemming from the different origins reflect the uniqueness of Ratchaburi community.



4 : Distinctive Heritage of Ratchaburi

4.1 Cultural Heritage : This area is devoted to present information about major tourist attractions and local customs and traditions festivals local cuisines and handicrafts.

4.2 Natural Heritage : Besides the cultural heritage, Ratchaburi is the house of several well-known natural tourist attractions such as Khao Ngu National Stone Park, Pongyub, Kaeng Sommaew. This section also display some plants that are symbols of Ratchaburi province.

4.3 Famous people in Ratchaburi History This area introduces the important people who had contributed to the growth and improvement of the province in the past in many areas such as military, politic, culture and folk arts.

5 : Ratchaburi Today This section shows the general information of the province including many areas such as education, public health, public utility industries, agriculture and populations. The highlights of this section is the displays of the projects originated by King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the present king of Thailand, such as Nongpho Dairy Cooperative Ltd. Restore the fertility of the soil at Khao Cha Ngum Project.



Former Ratchaburi Prefecture central government head office

The building structure is influenced by the western architecture style. Similar to the city hall, it was built in the shape of rectangular. There are two storeys on a high raised floor, half cement half wood. It was built in 1873 in the reign of king Rama V and then was used as a residence of Somdej Chaopraya Borom Maha Sri Suriyawongse, the first regent during the early period of King Rama VI. Later it was used and a government house during the early settlement period of Ratchaburi Prefecture and a multi purpose office as a center of any official affairs respectively. In 1996 the Fine Arts Department was allowed by Treasury Department to renovate this building and declared it the second building of Ratchaburi National Museum. The first floor provides spaces or temporary exhibitions and events including special activities. The upstairs functions as an office and displays archaeological evidence.

